

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02
DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 /107 W
-----059863 172323Z /75

R 170452Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4974
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOEHQ WASHDC
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 00833

USIAEA

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, APER, IAEA, TECH, NZ
SUBJECT: IAEA DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL

REF: VIENNA 0995

1. EMBASSY HAS NOT DISCUSSED SUBJECT POSITION WITH ANYONE IN GNZ. IT IS KNOWN, HOWEVER, THAT CURRENT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, JOHN F. ROBERTSON, IS LOOKING FOR DIFFERENT JOB AND MIGHT WELL BE INTERESTED IN A JOB WITH AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY.

2. ROBERTSON IS 52 YEARS OLD, GRADUATE OF UNIVERSITIES OF CANTERBURY AND WELLINGTON, AIR FORCE VETERAN OF WWII, CAREER CIVIL SERVANT, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE IN 1967, AND SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SINCE 1969. HE HAS DONE
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POSTGRADUATE STUDY IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGERIAL PROBLEMS AT VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, WELLINGTON, AND BROOKINGS INSTITUTION IN WASHINGTON AND HAS STUDIED THE BRITISH AND CANADIAN DEFENSE ORGANIZATIONS. ROBERTSON'S STRENGTH IS GENERALLY REGARDED TO LIE IN THE AREA OF ORGANIZATION.

3. DESPITE ROBERTSON'S VERY SENIOR POSITION IN THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND SERVICE, EMBASSY BELIEVES HE MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN IAEA POSITION, NOT LEAST OF ALL BECAUSE ITS SALARY IS LIKELY SIGNIFICANTLY LARGER THAN \$27,000 HE PRESENTLY EARNS.

4. A SECOND POSSIBILITY, ALTHOUGH 58 YEARS OLD, IS RETIRED CHIEF OF NEW ZEALAND'S DEFENSE STAFF, LT. GENERAL SIR RICHARD WEBB. WEBB, WHO RETIRED IN SEPTEMBER 1977, IS ACTIVE, IN GOOD HEALTH AND KNOWN BY EMBASSY TO BE LOOKING FOR AN INTERESTING JOB. EDUCATED AT NELSON COLLEGE, N.Z., AND GRADUATED IN 1941 FROM THE ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE, DUNTROON, AUSTRALIA, WEBB SPENT THE NEXT 36 YEARS IN THE N.Z. ARMY. HE SERVED THREE YEARS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ITALY DURING WWII, WAS SECOND-IN-COMMAND OF N.Z. ARMY CONTRIBUTION TO UN COMMAND IN KOREA FROM 1950-52, SPENT TWO YEARS (1960-62) AS N.Z. PLANNER AT SEATO, BANGKOK, AND TOOK IN-SERVICE TRAINING IN BOTH U.S. AND BRITAIN. WEBB WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF IN 1968, CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF IN 1970 AND CHIEF OF DEFENSE STAFF IN 1971.

5. EMBASSY WOULD NOT HESITATE TO RECOMMEND EITHER OF THESE MEN AS CAPABLE AND PROBABLY INTERESTED. SELDEN

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